

All Saints C of E Primary School

Homework Policy



All Saints Church of England Primary School

Reviewed by	Signed (Chair)	Date Reviewed	Review Due Date
Board Of Governors		February 2022	February 2025

All Saints C of E Primary School – Homework policy

Rationale:

Homework refers to any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time that contributes to their learning. At All Saints C of E Primary School we believe homework supports the development of independent learning skills and keeps parents and carers in touch with their child's education.

Regular homework gives pupils opportunities to make learning links between school and home, allowing them to extend their learning and helping them work towards improving important skills. The children will become confident and independent with their learning, which will help them throughout their time at school and in adult life.

At All Saints C of E Primary School we believe that encouraging children to learn both at home and in school is an important way of establishing a successful dialogue between staff and parents/carers. The role of play and free time is also recognised as important to a child's growth and development. Parents and carers are encouraged to interact positively with their children through, for example, regularly playing games with them.

All Saints C of E Primary School recognises the importance of talk and communication as an essential way in which pupils learn and develop. It encourages parents and carers to discuss with their children what has happened during the school day and talk with them about their learning, as well as engaging in general conversation to support pupils' understanding of language. We encourage parents and carers to speak extensively to their children in their home language so that the first language is developed: research shows that this supports the development of the second or additional languages.

Aims:

At All Saints C of E Primary School, we give out homework on a regular basis:

- To enable all pupils to make maximum progress.
- To help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner.
- To promote a partnership between home and school.
- To consolidate learning.
- To enable children to have ownership of their learning.
- To develop children's interests and enjoyment in learning.

Differentiation:

Homework tasks are differentiated where necessary and are appropriate to the needs of the individual. Where the same task is set for pupils with a range of abilities (e.g. for a project-based task), teacher expectations will differ depending on individual pupils' current levels of achievement. Teachers are encouraged to provide optional extension activities that all pupils in the class may try if they so wish.

Pupils with SEND:

Although it is seen as important that children identified as having SEND do as much in common with the other children as possible, there will be occasions when they may benefit from specific tasks that are different from the homework set for other children in the class. A balanced approach to homework will be adopted for pupils with SEND, in consultation with the pupil's parents and the SENCO.

Higher Achieving Children:

Children who are gifted and talented or very able in one or more areas of the curriculum should be given the opportunity to extend their learning in identified areas. As such, their homework may include specific extension activities or investigations and, at times, may differ from that set for the majority of the class.

Wherever possible, homework will provide challenge through open-ended tasks that allow each individual child to work to their full potential.

Roles, Responsibilities and Expectations:

Teachers:

At All Saints C of E Primary School, teachers are expected to set regular homework across the year group in accordance to the policy and ensure that it is marked regularly with any next steps identified. The quality of homework is monitored and reviewed at regular periods. We will periodically seek feedback from parents, carers and pupils.

Pupils:

At All Saints C of E Primary School, pupils are expected to ensure that their homework is completed to the best of their ability and is returned to the class teacher at the appropriate time. Older children may be required to complete homework during their break time, if necessary. Homework books will be provided for the children to use. It is the pupil's responsibility to maintain his/her reading book, reading log, homework book and other materials.

Parents and Carers:

At All Saints C of E Primary School, parents and carers are encouraged to provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which their child can do homework. They should make it clear to their children that they value homework and should support the school by explaining how it can help their learning. Parents and carers are encouraged to discuss their child's homework with them and praise them when they have completed homework. They should also inform the school if any issues arise.

It is expected that, up to Year 4, parents will discuss the work and prompt and encourage as their child does their homework. From Year 5 onwards, children will be increasingly expected to do their homework independently.

Parents and carers are encouraged to read with their children for at least 15 minutes every day and for children to read to their parents from books pitched at the right level at least 5 times a week. The starting age for this will vary depending on the developmental stage of the child and how ready they are.

Time Allocation:

Time allocation will vary according to the age of the pupil and the maturity of the pupil.

In Pre-School, children take reading books home to share with parents and carers. Parents should read to their children and discuss the illustrations in books with them.

In both Pre-School and Reception, practical activities to support maths and speaking & listening will be sent home when appropriate. Sharing rhymes and songs is very beneficial for children.

We encourage parents of children in the Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2 to focus on reading, discussion and playing games.

For children in Reception and Key Stage 1, homework will mainly consist of daily reading with parents (approximately 10 – 15 minutes), practising letter sounds and learning to read and write the high frequency words. From Year 1, children will also have regular spellings to learn and a weekly mathematics activity.

Children in Years 3 and 4 will read daily (10–15 mins), have weekly maths activities and spellings to learn. They may also be asked to work on project activities which may be literacy, mathematics or topic based.

Children in Years 5 and 6 will have a regular schedule of reading (15–20 minutes daily) and will have weekly maths activities and spellings to learn. They will also be asked to work on project activities which may be literacy, mathematics or topic based. Periodically children may be given some revision activities to support their learning.

Homework and spellings are given out weekly across the whole school with a designated return date in order to be marked. Homework handed in after this date may be marked in less detail. Each half term children will be set an open topic project homework task to support their learning and ignite their interests.

Reading books are sent home daily with a Reading Log in Reception – Year 6. In Years 5 and 6, pupils have a Reading Journal which is a class-based activity.

If a child is absent when homework is set, teachers will use their professional judgement to decide whether it is appropriate for them to complete the homework. Pupils should be well enough to undertake any work supplied.

Marking homework:

Homework may be marked in a variety of ways, in accordance with the school's Feedback and Marking Policy. In general, homework will be marked by teachers to check children have secured the required skills. Any next steps will be identified and shared. Occasionally, homework may be marked orally with the pupil or class. Any homework that is handed in late will be seen by the teacher, but may be marked in less detail.

Review:

This Homework policy will be reviewed and evaluated regularly to ensure that teachers and parents are completely clear about what is expected of pupils, parents/ carers and teachers in terms of homework.